

STATE OF MAINE  
PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

Docket No. 2002-464

August 20, 2002

PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION  
Inquiry into the Development of Power  
Quality Criteria for Use in T&D Utility  
Alternative Rate Plans

NOTICE OF INQUIRY

WELCH, Chairman; NUGENT and DIAMOND, Commissioners

---

**I. SUMMARY**

By way of this Notice, we open this inquiry to gather information to develop suitable power quality criteria for use in transmission and distribution (T&D) utility Alternative Rate Plans (ARPs).

**II. SCOPE OF INQUIRY**

On June 11, 2002, the Commission issued an Order Approving Stipulation in *Bangor Hydro-Electric Company, Request for Approval of Alternative Rate Plan*, Docket No. 2001-410, which approved an ARP for Bangor Hydro-Electric Company (BHE). BHE's ARP includes a Service Quality Index (SQI) which contains two separate power reliability criteria. The parties to the ARP Stipulation were not able to agree upon a suitable indicator to measure power quality, but agreed to convene a statewide task force of interested stakeholders, including the parties, the Commission Staff, Central Maine Power Company (CMP) and Maine Public Service Company (MPS), to investigate alternatives and, where appropriate, recommend a new indicator(s) for measuring power quality service performance. The parties to the Stipulation further agreed to investigate, as part of the statewide task force process, whether a Momentary Average Interruption Frequency Index (MAIFI) should be included as an SQI indicator.

We open this inquiry to provide a vehicle for the power quality task force contemplated in the Stipulation in Docket No. 2001-410 to conduct its business and to provide recommendations to the Commission. We hope the task force will be able to agree upon a methodology or criteria which appropriately measures power quality and which can be incorporated into the State's T&D utilities' ARPs.

**III. PARTICIPATION IN INQUIRY**

In addition to those entities listed as task force participants in the Stipulation in Docket No. 2001-410, any other person with a stakeholder interest in power quality issues in the state may also participate in the process. Persons wishing to participate in this inquiry should file a letter with Dennis L. Keschl, Administrative Director, 242 State Street, 18 State House Station, Augusta, Maine 04333, expressing their interest to

participate in this matter by **September 6, 2002**. A service list for this docket will be distributed shortly after such time.

#### **IV. INITIAL MEETING**

The initial meeting of the Task Force participants has been scheduled for **September 18, 2002 at 10:00 a.m. in the Commission's Hearing Room.**

#### **V. SERVICE OF NOTICE**

A copy of this Notice shall be provided to the service lists in Docket Nos. 2001-410, 99-666 and 97-596.

Dated at Augusta, Maine, this 20<sup>th</sup> day of August, 2002.

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION

---

Dennis L. Keschl  
Administrative Director

COMMISSIONERS VOTING FOR:      Nugent  
   Diamond

COMMISSIONER ABSENT:              Welch